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## Iowa State Home Economics Association

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# Iowa State Home Economics Association

## OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Vera L. Mintle, President  
Simpson College  
Indianola, Iowa  
Iva L. Brandt, Chairman Membership  
Iowa State College  
Ames, Iowa

Fannie Gannon, Vice-President  
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Iowa State University  
Iowa City, Iowa

Conducted by MARCIA E. TURNER

## The State Program for 1928

By VERA L. MINTLE

The state association has had a challenging program for this year and while much is left to do toward the accomplishment of that program, every officer, committee and member is getting underneath and helping to carry the work to completion.

We of the Iowa Association have felt that one of the things we want to do is to make our association actually representative of home economics work. We are trying especially this year to interest our Iowa homemakers in the association. The plan carried out of accomplishing this aim is working in cooperation with the already well established women's clubs over the state. Many of these clubs have had for some time sections for music, dramatics, civic problems and other like groups, but only comparatively recently have some of them added a home economics section. The association, through the committee for the homemakers sections, has tried to interest some one in these different clubs whom we feel is a capable leader, to start such a section in her own club. While this work is only just begun, from some of the reports we know that these home economics sections have been among the very largest and that they have resulted in much interest and help to those who have participated in them. We feel the need of homemakers with their practical experience and sound judgment to help us carry out our program of work.

Another department the association has stressed is that of our student clubs in the state. We feel this has been an especially worth while project and we believe the news letter sent out by the student clubs and their leader has been one of the most effective pieces of work done. Not only will this department help our association at this time, but we believe these same students when out of high school and college will continue an active inter-



### Greetings from the President

The Iowa State Home Economics Association extends greetings to each state association represented at the American Home Economics Convention. May you carry away pleasant memories of the state "where the tall corn grows."

Vera L. Mintle,  
President, Iowa State Home  
Economics Association.

est in the big program of home economics in our state and nation. The programs and projects carried on by these groups have improved this last year under the guidance of our national leader of student club work and with the suggestions offered by the different teachers and homemakers in the state. Several clubs have contributed to the Ellen H. Richards Memorial Fund.

A third project, that of carrying on sectional home economics meetings in the seven districts of the state, has in the most of the districts been successful. This division into districts was started only two years ago and it has grown rapidly. At these sectional meetings the program often takes the form of a round table discussion under able leadership, where the smaller groups can talk over their problems in intimate fashion and receive new ideas or suggestions from others.

The fourth project was that of raising the Ellen H. Richards Memorial Fund. Although this has not been en-

tirely completed, the outlook is promising.

There are several other committees that have definite programs to carry out and that are aiding in building up the association. These committees are publicity, extension, program, and membership. We also have a news gatherer for the Journal of Home Economics and an editor for our State Association page in the Homemaker.

The opportunity of the State Association to serve as hostess to the National Convention and to share in the program of work that makes such a meeting possible is not to be overlooked. As a responsibility it has been a means of growth, and as a privilege it has been a happy experience for us.

## Visiting an American Consolidated School

By LOTTE MATSCHOSS

This is a story of the impressions a German girl received of home economics in an Iowa consolidated school, and its relation to home life. Miss Matschoss is a graduate student in home economics education at Iowa State College:

The consolidated school in J—— was the first of its kind I saw in the United States, and so my visit there was an event to me anyway. Germany having no farmers and no farm life as America, is not in need of such schools. Our peasants, who constitute our farming class, live together in small villages, each village having its own school, usually only a small school with only the first grades, for peasant children usually do not go to high schools. And so I was very interested to see how this problem is handled here with a different people under quite different circumstances.

The first sight of the school was very pleasant; the school house is built on a large free field with lots of space around for the children to play and to sport. On the parking place I admired the "bus," especially built for

the children, to gather them every day on their farms for school, and to bring them back again in the afternoon about four o'clock. And I think it remarkable that it is done by the school without charge to the children.

Inside, I came at once to the room for home economics. It is a pleasant room and well equipped for its purpose.

Now the girls came in for their class work, all nice looking and prettily dressed girls. I noticed that there is no difference between town girls and country girls at all. In Germany you could tell the difference at once. For instance, they all have bobbed hair here, which is very unusual in Germany in the country. But it is just as common in German cities as in American.

After having talked a bit with some of the girls, I was astonished about their frankness and their spontaneity in telling me something about their homes and their home life. This, too, would be rather different in Germany. Our country girls are shy, and would not tell a bit of all this those girls told me. I was thinking what might make this great difference. After I had the opportunity to visit around in the different grades of this school, I knew it is the big difference in the school education which makes them so. I was astonished how practical and natural the teachers go about it to teach the children. For instance, "language." I hated it in school, but here it was play, and every child likes it—you could tell by watching them. The children were free to talk, were not urged to do only things which please the teacher, but could be as they liked to be, which made them interested and happy in their work. I think there are very few schools in German country where teaching is so practical and human.

When I talked with the children, they of course showed me first the dresses they were making just now in class. They were very eager. Some of them showed me the collection of "best colors" they could wear, and it seemed to me that what they had learned about colors in class had interested them very much, and I think this was one of the best helps in tastefulness they could get.

Then they told me about their home life and the farms. A interesting point was that only on one of these farms was a man hired to help. All the other farms are kept by the parents, with

the help of the children. So the children have to begin early with the work to get around. Most of the girls have to get up at five or earlier. Some of them do out-of-door work also, but most of them keep the house in order. They are busy 'til the bus comes to gather them for the nine o'clock class in school. Most of them have to stay in school for lunch, and do not come back home until about four o'clock. Then, of course, there is lots of work to do again, 'til half past eight, the time for bed.

There was not much about play they had to tell me. But they liked to tell about their small brothers and sisters and what fun and nonsense they make. Besides, I counted the number of brothers and sisters they have, and found out that there is an average of almost five children in each family, which is a rather high average.

I asked them whether they find some time to read. Yes, on Sundays and sometimes in the evenings. And what? Here they named some magazines and periodicals. I found the "American" was read by all, but there were many other periodicals, including farm journals. I was much surprised at the large number of periodicals read.

After all, I was convinced that for those farm girls the school is a very fine completion to their home life. All their vitality and their interest is centered there and it gives them what they otherwise would miss of community life. And home economics in school is an outstandingly fine thing for these farm girls. It connects their home work with the school work and conversely, and so helps them in both and gives them a right spirit for their life.

#### A GOOD COOK?

"Astounding the money Babe Ruth makes, isn't it?"

"No; Mother always told me that a good batter makes good dough."

—Selected.

"Madam, there is a caterpillar in your lettuce.

"Oh, that's all right—they're so little they don't eat much."—Williams Purple Cow.

"I've fallen for you," said the cake to the oven door.—Green Gander.

No, married men do not live longer. The time just seems longer.—Green Gander.

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